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141st Medical Company Deploys to the Balkans

Story by Maj. John Whitford, State Public Affairs Officer

Photo by Spc. Marian Rosado, 65th PCH

Eighteen members of Detachment 1, 141st Medical Company of New Britain deployed to their mobilization station at Ft. Benning, Georgia to further prepare to deploy to Bosnia in support of "Operation Joint Forge."

A send off ceremony was conducted at the Army Aviation Support Facility (AASF) in Windsor Locks on Sunday, February 25, 2001 honoring the 18 soldiers.

State Senator Thomas Bozek and New Britain Mayor Mr. Lucien Pawlak attended the ceremony and addressed the soldiers and their families.

"There are politicians like myself who support the Connecticut National Guard and military for all you do for us," said Sen.



Bozek. "I am honored to be here today, and I look forward to your return."

"These soldiers are ready and have trained at a high level of competency for this deployment," said Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, Connecticut's Adjutant General and Commander of the Connecticut National Guard. "They are ready, willing and able to perform the mission."

Many family members, friends and soldiers attended the send-off ceremony. As the snow, sleet and freezing rain made driving difficult, it did not put a damper on the event. "The weather was not going to keep my away," said one family member.

"I have mixed emotions about today," said Spec. Dionna Eves, one of the deploying

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From Avon to Pennsylvania Avenue – The Inauguration of 2001

By Pfc. Howard L. Miller,
1st Co. GHG Historian

The First Company Governor's Horse Guard has returned from another historic trip to our nation's capitol where amid pomp and ceremony, the unit paraded before President

George W. Bush in celebration of his inauguration as Chief Executive. In spite of bitter cold and rain, the Horse Guard proudly represented the State of Connecticut and its citizens in this national celebration.

A total of 42 persons made the trip, including riders and grounds crew, with the convoy departing Avon about at 8:45 on Wednesday, after wrapping our horses' tails and legs and loading equipment on four trucks. The weather was raw and wet by the time we arrived in the Washington, D.C. area and made our way to Prince George County Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, MD. This was to be the temporary home for not only our mounts, but for the horses of numerous other equestrian units from across the country.

When not caring for the horses, Troopers spent their time cleaning stables,

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Rep. Simmons Visits AVCRAD

Rep. Robert Simmons (R-CT-2nd) had the opportunity to visit the Aviation Classification Repair Activity Depot (AVCRAD) facility in Groton recently. The Congressman saw first hand the skills necessary for the mission of Connecticut's AVCRAD.

Simmons received a briefing from Lt. Col. William Shea, executive officer and full-time supervisor of the 1109th AVCRAD. Simmons also had the opportunity to tour the facility and meet AVCRAD soldiers.

Simmons, who is a member of the House Armed Services Committee, supports the priorities and mission of the Connecticut National Guard.

Upon the conclusion of his visit the Congressman stated

that the tour and briefing gave him a better perspective on how, in his new position in the House Armed Services, he can best support the Connecticut National Guard.

"I am pleased that the Congressman had the opportunity to visit our facility," said Lt. Col. William Shea. "We look forward to developing a close working relationship with him and appreciate his support."



UP FRONT WITH THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

By MAJ. GEN. WILLIAM A. CUGNO,
ADJUTANT GENERAL



Women Making History In The Connecticut Guard

The people of the Connecticut Guard reflect the multi-ethnic culture of this great industrial state. We are becoming increasingly diverse. In 1973, the Connecticut Guard enlisted its first female soldier. In 1979, the Connecticut Army National Guard hired its first full-time female recruiter, and in just the last three years, the percentage of female membership in the Connecticut Guard jumped three percent, making up 15 percent of the work force. This percentage is slightly higher than the national average.

Women in the Connecticut Guard have made significant contributions to this organization, more history than can be confined to Women's History Month in March.

Women have challenged the social traditions that limited their potential. They have

suffered but they have endured and they have triumphed. They have assumed roles that were once the exclusive domain of men. Education, health care, family, environment - - once called "women's issues" now concern everyone. Women have amassed the expertise on domestic issues and are influencing business and politics with new styles of leadership. That leadership is shown in the Connecticut Guard today.

Women have held, and continue to hold, a variety of positions from squad leader to senior airmen, from sergeant major to platoon leader, even commander. From Dorothea Dix to Ella Grasso to our women soldiers and airmen of the Connecticut Guard, women continue to put their stamp on America. These women have stepped forward to defend our state and nation. The women of the Connecticut Guard have shown

remarkable courage, extraordinary compassion and an unparalleled sense of duty and dedication.

Wherever the Connecticut Guard is today, from the Balkans to Central America, from the Hartford Armory to other armories across the state to being deployed to another country, women soldiers and airmen make their presence felt.

In the final analysis, when foes and friends look at someone in a battledress uniform, hospital whites, flight suit, dress greens or dress blues, they don't see a woman guardsman. No, what they see are American soldiers and airmen - who will do what they are asked to do, no matter their color, sex or how many days of the week they wear the uniform.

When these Connecticut soldiers and airmen do that, they make more history.



By STATE COMMAND
SERGEANT MAJOR
STEPHEN L. PRIMETT

The drug culture is an ever changing and evolving problem in the United States, and the military is not immune to its dangers. One aspect of the culture that seems to be drawing a great deal of attention lately is the "Rave Scene."

The Rave scene began as a subculture in England around 1980 and has since migrated into mainstream culture throughout the United States.

This culture is characterized by two types of Raves: Secretive, which are usually held in warehouses, deserts, woods and other such places; or Commercialized, typically held in established clubs. Both types of Rave generally feature extremely loud "techno" music and dancing, lighting and visual stimuli to include lasers and video screens, a 14 to 25 year-old age group, an alcohol-free environment and escapist culture during all-night events in which designer drugs are bought, sold and consumed.

The Rave scene also comes with its own seemingly harmless paraphernalia.

Water bottles - Ecstasy, the most widely used drug associated with Raves, causes

dehydration and increases body temperature.

Light sticks - These are used to enhance the visual experience while on the drugs as individuals see "trails" of light.

Pacifiers - Rave drugs tend to cause the user to grind their teeth and the pacifier prevents this.

Bags of small candies and breath mints - The drugs intended for sale are often stored in these bags.

Eye drop bottles - These are used to store the liquid form of the drugs.

Dust masks and Vicks Vapo-Rub - These are combined to enhance the effects of the designer drugs. The Vicks is placed under the nose and the mask is used to keep the rub from dissipating.

Caffeinated beverages/stimulants - These help with exhaustion caused by the dancing and stimulant effect of the drugs.

Some of the designer drugs affiliated with Raves include Ecstasy, LSD, Ketamine, GHB, Rohypnol and Nitrous Oxide. As with all drugs, the amount used combined with the mental state of the user and the setting in which it is consumed will determine the effect of the chemical. The higher the dose, the

more pronounced and more prolonged the effects.

Young military personnel and the Rave scene are a dangerous combination. Let's remember that in some cases these are lonely 18-year-old kids that may be away from home for the first time. Underage access to Rave clubs or parties is common due to the lack of alcohol. There is an attraction to some of the designer drugs that are commonly known as "love drugs", drugs that loosen inhibitions. The open sale of drugs and the potential for steady incomes is attractive. The knowledge of the detection deficiencies for designer drugs and the belief that designer drugs are not dangerous also lure the young people into a false sense of security.

For example, designer drugs such as Ecstasy are viewed as social, non-threatening drugs, yet all have the potential to negatively impact readiness and quality of life within the military.

We, as NCOs, need to be aware of this culture, and the young soldiers in our charge that may be vulnerable to the Rave scene. We need to educate ourselves and our soldiers on the dangers this culture provides. We need to ensure the readiness and quality of life for all our soldiers.

ENLISTED UPDATE

RAVE SCENE AND THE YOUNG SOLDIER

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polishing leather and brass and making the acquaintance of other mounted units, such as the mounted color guard from Fort Riley, Kansas, members of the U.S. Army's First Cavalry Horse Detachment from Fort Hood, Texas, and a Houston-based Marshal's Posse. Mounted police units from Philadelphia and Indianapolis were also quartered nearby. For Pfc. Steve Ardussi, old memories were revived when he greeted members of Culver Academy's Black Horse Troop, with whom he rode in the 1961 inauguration of President John F. Kennedy. Indeed, for several Horse Guard troopers, there were memories of presidential inaugurations gone by. The Connecticut unit has participated in most of them dating back to the second inauguration of President Dwight Eisenhower in 1957. Members including Capt. Wallace Michaud, 2nd Lt. David Wirty, 1st Lt. Steven Meltzer, and Staff Sgt. Brian Deane have vivid memories of the inauguration of President George Herbert Walker Bush in 1989.

While time and weather were not conducive to any sight-seeing trips, Maj. Richard

Belliveau, our commandant, arranged for the Troop to receive a guided tour of the newly renovated Prince George Equestrian Center and Arena, which plays host to horse shows, sporting events and other public shows.

Lt. Dale Barseness, the unit's Public Affairs Officer, made arrangements for a special dinner at the Andrews Air Force Base Officers Club on Friday night. A splendid meal was had by the troop and it's guests, Col. (Ret.) John D. Raphael, Military Administrative Officer for the Connecticut Army National Guard, and Chief Warrant Officer 5 Charles Sowles, Commander of the Fort Riley Caisson Platoon.

We listened to weather forecasts late into Friday night, as there was some discussion of canceling the parade. But Saturday dawned and the horses were fed, watered and loaded up for transport to the first of several parade staging areas. Entering Washington, we unloaded the horses and began to exercise them in a parking lot in front of the U.S. Department of Labor surrounded by other mounted units and much activity. By noon, we were dressed in our parade uniforms and mounted, ready to proceed to the next staging area. A short

ride placed us in position and we waited in a biting cold mix of sleet and rain, for the parade to begin. Several hours seemed like days, as the presidential motorcade slowly made its way from the Capitol to the reviewing stand. In the midst of marching bands, motorcycle units and elaborate floats, our horses were

impatient but not unruly. Several celebrities passed down the line of marchers including actors Drew Carrey, Kelsey Grammar, Bo Derek and Delta Burke.

At approximately 5 p.m., led by Belliveau and Sgt. Ray Leonard carrying the Troop guidon, Connecticut's cavalry began moving forward. Riding seven abreast in three ranks behind its officers, the Horse Guard began its triumphant march down Pennsylvania Avenue. Cheering crowds greeted the group. Several Connecticut residents among the onlookers made their presence known with shouts of pride and encouragement.

When the procession turned left on Pennsylvania Avenue towards the reviewing stand, brilliant spotlights created an artificial sunshine that bathed the surroundings in a golden glow. As the Troop approached the reviewing stand, an "eyes left" was ordered and the riders saluted the new Commander-in-Chief. Also present were our Captain-General, Gov. John G. Rowland, and his wife, Patricia.

Riding past to Constitution Avenue, we were met by our able ground crew and vehicles. Horses were un-saddled and loaded and we quickly exchanged our rain sodden dress uniforms for BDUs. The convoy made its way out of the District heading towards southern New Jersey, where arrangements had been made to quarter the horses for the night in an open pasture. Unfortunately a heavy snowstorm negated the plan and an



alternative had to be improvised. By 4 a.m. Sunday, the horses were safely bedded down in protected stables in a local county fair grounds and tired troopers had an early breakfast in a Sewell, NJ diner before proceeding to our hotel. Five hours later, we had re-joined our mounts and loaded them for the last leg of the trip back to Connecticut.

Another proud chapter of Horse Guard history has been written. Those who participated will long remember the cold rain, sleet, snow, long hours and hard work, but as Hemingway wrote: "pain fades and memories linger." The mission was successfully completed and the citizens of Connecticut can be justly proud of the job done by the First Company Governor's Horse Guards in representing our state in the Presidential Inauguration of 2001.

The delights of self-discovery are always available.

Gail Sheehy



Rusconi Assumes Command of CTANG

By LT. COL. CHARLES McKELLAR
PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER, HQ CTANG

Brig. Gen. Lawrence D. Rusconi took over command of the Connecticut Air National Guard during a Change of Command ceremony at Bradley Air National Guard Base January 6.

As master of ceremonies, Lt. Col. Joseph Tolisano, began the ceremony by welcoming everyone to the Change of Command ceremony for the Headquarters, Connecticut Air National Guard.

"The Change of Command ceremony you are about to witness is deeply rooted in military tradition, predating the Norman Conquest of England," said Tolisano. History reveals that in the middle ages it was not uncommon for the soldiers in the field not to know their commanders or what they looked like. The formal Change of Command afforded these soldiers the opportunity to witness the proceeding and see their commanders.

Today, the primary purpose of the Change of Command is to allow subordinates to witness the formality of command change from one officer to another officer. However, in the ceremony today, Rusconi, the new commander, takes his place before Brig. Gen. George A. Demers, the commander, and says, "Sir, I assume command." Only four words are spoken, but in these few words there begins a new chapter of command. For Rusconi, it heralds the beginning of a challenging tour of duty.

After relinquishing command, Brig. Gen. George A. Demers addressed the audience by thanking the commanders and senior non-commissioned officers of the Connecticut Air National Guard for attending this Change of Command ceremony. He then said, "You all have the responsibility to uphold and enforce the high standards expected from our state and nation.

"The Connecticut Air National Guard is comprised of exceptional individuals. This was demonstrated when our three major units were recognized for our accomplishments during 1997. The 103rd Fighter Wing and the 103rd Air Control Squadron received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, and the Headquarters received the Air Force Excellence Award. A first for a state to have all its units recognized for excellence in the same year."

Demers thanked the airmen for their support during his six years as their commander. He then said, "I am confident that you will support General Rusconi the same as you have supported me. I am also confident that the Connecticut Air National Guard will continue being a model Air National Guard organization. I wish you well and continued success in your upcoming deployment."

After Demers comments, Rusconi addressed the audience by saying, "When I was pinned a brigadier general in a ceremony in the Old Judiciary Room of the State Capitol in 1998, I spoke of my good fortune - throughout both my military and civilian careers. To have achieved success and recognition in large part due to the outstanding individuals with whom I have had the pleasure of working with in those careers."

Rusconi then pledged to Demers, the commanders, the first sergeants and airmen present that he shall do whatever he can in the next several months as the commander to continue to promote the values and standards of excellence which make the Connecticut Air National Guard the premier Air Guard organization in the United States.

Some Days in the Life of TSIRT...

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CAPT. SCOTT WILSON,
ASSISTANT PAO

I woke in an unfamiliar place, to an unfamiliar face, at an unfamiliar time. It was still quite dark, and a cursory look at my watch showed 0315 - hence the darkness. The lieutenant informed me it was time to go...

And then we were standing on the runway in the piercing, cold February wind, a river of BDU's and Rucks and Kevlars leading up



the stairs into the darkness...

And then the plane was airborne. I was still a bit groggy, but not enough to ignore the abruptness of our leaving. The flight attendant asked if I'd like some coffee...

And then I was standing on another runway, warmer this time, looking at the "shed," a building quite familiar in my nightmares, where many of us once spent tortuous hours waiting to board an aircraft that we would exit while in flight. It sat at the end of the runway, looking innocuous, but I knew better. It was 0730.

Fort Benning. How quickly we arrived! As we progressed toward our barracks, déjà vu was in ample supply, as images from days past leapt to the forefront of my now alert conscious. As we rolled along, I noted that the dominant images in the remembrances of this place pertained to learning, to training - and to challenge. I anticipated more of the same in the days to come.

After assignment of my "rubber duck," room, and squad, I had an opportunity to examine the training schedule...Whoa. This was going to be a packed couple of days. Media, mines, Milosevic, MEDEVAC...COBs, convoys, Croatsians...searches, Serbs, standing Rules of Engagement...a little bit, no, a LOT of everything! My fellow squad members from B Company, 1-102nd Infantry and the 143rd FSB (Forward Support

Battalion) were excited - this was a big step towards what they were training for. Fueling their excitement was the knowledge that, at the end of this road, they would wear the Stars and Stripes proudly on their shoulders and represent our nation in Bosnia-Herzegovina...if they successfully completed TSIRT.

Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training, otherwise known as "TSIRT," is located at Fort Benning, Georgia. It provides necessary training for success in specific theaters - in this case Bosnia - and is run by "experts" from the active duty component of the Army, many who have already experienced deployment to the theater in question. B Company of the 102nd and the 143rd FSB prepared for this training in the months prior, and were now going to test their knowledge and skills. One day would consist of refresher training, and the next would be "the test," where individual squads would run through simulated "lanes" and respond accordingly to given situations.

My squad's first day began with a bang...literally. We reacted to indirect fire, sniper fire, and an ambush, practicing our individual movement techniques and buddy rushes. After a "welcome back" from the red Georgia clay, we progressed next to the vehicular search station, where we had our first experience with a "COB" (Civilian on the Battlefield). More COB interaction followed at the Personnel Search/Checkpoint Operations station, and then we progressed to a classroom environment, where we learned about mines and booby traps. It was in this classroom that a catchphrase first emerged (for me, at least)...it came in the form of an answer to a question: "If you find yourself in a mine field, how long do you have to probe for mines and identify a safe route to extract your unit?" The answer? A very, very poignant, "The rest of your life." Sgt. Lucas Cussen, a mortar section leader from B Company also saw the relevance in this. "C's (Mortarmen) don't get an opportunity to experience some of these training tasks often, so this is great for us, as we anticipate more of a straight infantry role in theater. I think the mine and vehicular search training has been most valuable to me thus far."

After mines, our squad



received a refresher on convoy operations, an introduction to the use and employment of non-lethal weapons, and a practical exercise involving the nine-line MEDEVAC request. Finally, we were given a thorough indoctrination to the standing Rules of Engagement, and then were released for chow.

What a day! While tired, we all knew that the next day was the real show, and intersquad planning (role assignment, task delegation, etc.) had already begun over dinner. And then, the TSIRT crew threw me a curve ball...

I say "me" because I failed to notice that the training schedule didn't end after chow, so it caught me off guard when our bus didn't return to the barracks. "Building 4" (part of the Infantry Officer's Course facility) loomed

ahead, and upon arrival, we filed into a large auditorium for continued training. We received a very thorough, and surprisingly interesting, briefing on the history of the conflict in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It introduced all of us to the key players, and broke down the origins of the conflict to an appropriate level of detail. We then received a humorous, but applicable, indoctrination to media relations. With the help of video clips from actual interviews, Bob Newhart, and staged "training" interviews, we learned how to tell the Army story. Spc. Timothy Bills of Groton, Conn. participated in one of those "training" interviews, and he told me that, "It really showed me that I wasn't prepared for one, even though I thought I was. It really opened my eyes - and showed me some of the skills I need to brush up on."

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Members of the Infantry and FSB Train for Deployment



TSIRT from page 4

Upon our return to the barracks, inter-squad preparation continued, and after the squad leaders were satisfied that their teams understood their collective and individual roles for the next day's events, we were

0400 came early, and it came with a slowly diminishing rain. But an air of anticipation pervaded the barracks, and a look at the faces on the way to morning chow showed determination. Today was the day.



Our squad began the day searching vehicles and personnel...which made us happy, because at the end of the day, our brethren in other squads showed visible signs of the morning "clay soup" they were greeted with on the squad reaction lanes. We "got over," according to them - to which we

released. It was 2200.

At the end of the day, I had an opportunity to speak with Spc. Aaron Gravel of Stonington, Conn. He observed that "...our instructors today were great. They are subject matter experts that really showed us what we don't know. And it's been great to rotate folks through the leadership positions to gain experience." I also asked Spc. Morgan Fiszal of Glastonbury, Conn., about his impressions following the day, and he explained, "It wasn't just the training. The real key to today, and this whole TSIRT experience, is the opportunity we have to build relationships within our squad and platoon. We're getting to know our leadership, too. Several of us came over to the unit from the 143rd MP (Military Police) company, so this experience is invaluable for us."

could only grin the knowing grin of a soldier who has been on the rough end of the stick before. But, as Spc. John Bontatibus of New Haven, Conn., observed, "This is fun, HOOAH training - this is what I joined the Army for!"

But, then it was our turn. Upon arrival at the "lanes," we were given some cursory directions, a short time to rehearse, and then we were told to move out. As we traversed down the dirt road through the Georgia forest in our squad formation, we first noticed the mines lining either side of the road (a big message of the training - don't go off the road). Then, we came upon a large roadblock. Our squad leader dispensed the point man to find a way around it, only to have him find that our easiest route was booby-trapped. Trip wires criss-crossed the pathway, so we were forced to find another way around. We did...

And then we came upon the mine field. We couldn't help but notice it, as our lane evaluator "killed" the point man, who had "tripped" one of the mines. The squad took to the business of probing their individual areas to find a way out, and also to find a way to their fallen comrade. Again, we did, but...

Then we came upon the COB's. They wanted water, food, cigarettes, whatever we would give them - in exchange for a map of the minefields that lay in our path ahead. An interpreter from our squad was brought in, and we were able to broker an agreement - without giving anything away. We proceeded further along our route, until...

We took sniper fire. We all dropped and huddled behind a berm lining the road, safe for the moment, but awaiting word that we had located the sniper or were going to get the heck out of Dodge. Leaving Dodge was the option chosen, so we did...

And then we took artillery fire. Our squad leader gave us a direction and distance, and we beat-feet out of the impact area, finally stopping to catch our breath...and get hit with more artillery, which caused us to make haste again.

That's abbreviated, but that's what it was like. Challenge after challenge, the squad reacted in concert with the training they received, and surmounted the obstacles put in their path. By the end of it all, we were tired, but we made it...and in making it, we learned the nuances between making war, and making peace. Pvt. 2 Jonathan Ducki gave me that observation: "This was great training overall, but you know what? We usually practice 'war' tasks...this time, we were shown the mental state necessary to



enforce the Dayton Peace Accords. It's a paradigm shift - and we now have the foundation to pursue it."

It may have lacked the panache of an infantry live-fire exercise, but TSIRT was definitely as applicable. I had the opportunity to talk to many of the soldiers from various parts of the 143rd and B Company, 1-102nd during my assignment, and to a man everyone was impressed...including me. Not just with the training, but also with the quality of the soldiers, the leadership, and the unit I was given the honor of "covering" for this article. At the end of it all, these soldiers walked down the stairs from the plane to the same runway at Bradley International Airport where they began the whirlwind three days before, but this time there was a present waiting for each of them - their American Flag patch. Each and every one deserved it - and after sharing this experience with them, I'm positive that we couldn't be sending any better to do our nation's business overseas.



AFRICAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE CELEBRATION

STORY BY LT. COL. CHARLES McKELLAR,
PUBLIC AFFAIRS HQ CTANG

Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PANCO

On February 8, members of the Connecticut National Guard, veterans, community leaders and community members gathered at the First Cathedral in Bloomfield to celebrate the 15th annual African-American Heritage Month.

The purpose of the African-American Heritage Month Celebration is to recognize and foster increased awareness and understanding of the contributions and achievements of African-Americans to our society, state and nation.

The Connecticut National Guard, the United States Postal Service, and the Federal Executive Association were the sponsoring organizations for this celebration with the theme: "Creating and Defining the African-American Community: Family, Church, Politics and Culture."

The ceremony began with opening remarks from Anita Ford Saunders, master of ceremonies, welcoming everyone to the celebration of.

The program continued with the posting of the colors and Alexander Foxworth, student representing Lawrence Elementary School in Middletown, singing "The Star-Spangled Banner," which earned him a general's coin from Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the Adjutant General of the State of Connecticut, for his outstanding performance.

The guest speaker, Denise Nappier, the 82nd Treasurer of the State of Connecticut, took office in 1999, becoming the first African-American women elected to a statewide office in Connecticut, and the first woman elected



treasurer in the state history. Nappier is responsible for ensuring effective financial management of public resources, high standards of professionalism and integrity, and expanding opportunity for the citizens and businesses of Connecticut.

During her comments, Nappier said, "First, this ceremony held each February honors the visionary commitment of Dr. Carter G.

Woodson, the "father" of Black history, and the architect of what has become Black History Month. Dr. Carter conceived the idea of Black History Week seventy-five years ago, but I must also commend the hundreds of educators, students, families, federal agencies and civic leaders who, in years since, have embraced his idea and caused it to remain a vital celebration into this new century." Nappier provided a tribute to Wilkins by reminding the audience that his tenure at the helm of the NAACP encompassed several legislative milestones of the

Civil Rights era, including passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the Fair Housing Act of 1968.

"Black history celebrations and other significant efforts have been instrumental in bringing to light African-American contributions in science, law, religion, economics, politics and many other spectrums of society," said Nappier. "They have helped to instill justifiable pride in African Americans in the accomplishments of past generations, even as they have increased awareness in our community and across all peoples."

Nappier said she believes the best investment we can make is in our young people. "Aside from instilling in our young people a sense of right values and morals, there is no greater gift we can give them to fully prepare for them for this new century than to teach them about investing prudently in their own futures, about the power and clout that comes with economic self-sufficiency and sharing the wealth with our community."

Alexander Lazaroff, lead executive/Connecticut district manager of the U. S. Postal Service, commented, "Tonight, we pay tribute to a man who will forever serve as a role model for all Americans, both young and old/Roy Wilkins. Roy Wilkins is the 24th American honored on a commemorative



postage stamp in the Black Heritage series. The series began Feb. 1, 1978, with the issuance of a 13 cent stamp honoring abolitionist Harriet Tubman."

Roy Wilkins joined the NAACP in 1931 and led the organization for 46 years of service. During this period, he served 12 years as executive director. Wilkins participated in numerous historic civil rights events during his time with the NAACP. Two of the most notable and historic were the 1954 Brown vs. Board of Education and the organizing of the 1963 March on Washington for jobs and Freedom, where Wilkins spoke and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his famous "I Have A Dream" speech.

Cugno and Lazaroff then presented the Student Achievement Awards to the three winning students. Each student received a Certificate of Academic Excellence and a United States Saving Bond valued at \$100.00.

The awardees were: Andre Harris representing Longfellow Elementary School in Bridgeport, and Charneil W. Bush representing Roger Park Middle School in Danbury. The third awardee was Takeisha Spencer representing Central Magnet High School in Bridgeport. Spencer was unable to attend the celebration.



Ethics Guidance from the Commander in Chief

By Lt. Gen. Russell Davis,
Chief, National Guard Bureau

When our new President was inaugurated, he promised to live and lead by these principles: to advance his convictions with civility, to pursue the public interest with courage, to speak for greater justice and compassion, to call for responsibility and try to live it as well.

When he attended the swearing in of his White House staff, the President charged every member of this administration to stay well within the boundaries that define legal and ethical conduct. This means avoiding even the appearance of improper conduct. He urged his staff members to consult the White House counsel on ethical matters, and I urge you to consult your Ethics Counselors as well. And he called on them to confront colleagues if they see questionable behavior.

I suggest to you that we can do no less.

Basic obligations of public service under Executive Order 12674:

1. Public Service is a public trust, requiring employees to place loyalty to the Constitution, the laws and ethical principles above private gain.
2. Employees shall not hold financial interests that conflict with the conscientious performance of duty.
3. Employees shall not engage in financial transactions using nonpublic Government information or allow the improper use of such information to further any private interest.
4. An employee shall not, except as [provided for by regulation], solicit or accept any gift or other item of monetary value from any person or entity seeking official action from, doing business with, or conducting activities regulated by the employee's agency, or whose interests may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the employee's duties.
5. Employees shall put forth honest effort in the performance of their duties.
6. Employees shall not knowingly make unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind the Government.
7. Employees shall not use public office for private gain.
8. Employees shall act impartially and not give preferential treatment to any private organization or individual.
9. Employees shall protect and conserve Federal property and shall not use it for other than authorized activities.
10. Employees shall not engage in outside employment or activities, including seeking or negotiating for employment, that conflict with official Government duties and responsibilities.
11. Employees shall disclose waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption to appropriate authorities.
12. Employees shall satisfy in good faith their obligations as citizens, including all just financial obligations, especially those—such as Federal, State, or local taxes—that are imposed by law.
13. Employees shall adhere to all laws and regulations that provide equal opportunity for all Americans regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or handicap.

Employees shall endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that they are violating the law or ethical standards. Whether particular circumstances create an appearance that the law or these standards have been violated shall be determined from the perspective of a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts.

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent. Eleanor Roosevelt

Horse Guard Diary

By Staff Sgt. Steve Markowski,
65th PCH

Mission: I'm the lucky recipient of a mission to report to the nation's capital to take photos. My main mission is to collect photos of the equipment used by the U.S. Army's "Old Guard," which is based at Ft. Myer, Virginia. This is the world's only full-time horse-mounted military unit.

The timing of this assignment allows me to accompany the First and Second Companies, Governor's Horse Guard of Connecticut in the parade for the 54th Presidential Inaugural. The First Company is actually the oldest continually operating cavalry unit in the world, tracing its roots back to 1776. It was officially chartered in 1788, after Connecticut officially became a state. Members of the unit accompanied then Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army George Washington, as he traveled Connecticut during the early days of the American Revolution. History that goes back to George Washington, continues today with another George W.

The Second Company was chartered by the General Assembly in 1808, and has established a great historic tradition, as well. Both of these units, which are members of the Connecticut State Militia, are always there for the inauguration ceremonies for Connecticut's governors. And they have developed a fine tradition of participating in the parades for the presidential inaugurals.

Unfortunately, I'll have to either talk my way into this parade, or sneak my way in. The

talking points are easy: "I'm with this historic unit. We're from the president-elect's state of birth, which also happened to be his father's favorite home state. Our boss, Governor Rowland, is a good friend of the next president, etc." The only problem is, I'll have to sell this to Secret Service agents who have a very tough and serious job, and will likely not want to deal with me, especially on this day. I anticipate taking photos from a street corner along the parade route. Stay tuned for further details.

Saturday, January 20, 2001.

0500 We assemble in the hotel restaurant to eat. I meet the commandants from the respective companies. They generously welcome me to accompany them in the parade, as if I am one of them. I appreciate the offer, and look forward to the day. There will be a combined total of 52 mounted horses in the parade representing Connecticut.

0530 We depart for the stables.

0545 We arrive at the Prince George's Equestrian Center in Upper Marlboro, in heavy rain.

0600 The Horse Guard members begin loading their horses in the mud and cold rain.

0700 The bus departs the stable area. It's still very dark, although the rain has let up.

A Horse Guard member steps onto the bus, looks down on the muddy floor and smiles at the driver: "You're going to have to hose down this bus!"

0800 The official policy of "Hurry up, and wait!" is in full implementation. The Horse Guard members were up and about by 4 a.m., ready to leave at 7 a.m., but they're only option now is to sit and wait for other people to form a convoy of buses. Some of them nap in place, preparing for a long day ahead. No one complains.

0815 The bus finally heads out to the highway, and the windshield wipers are barely needed. Police block entrance ramps along Route 4 North, allowing the buses to maintain convoy integrity. The trip is about 30 miles to Washington, D.C. I'm planning my photographic strategy. If I can find my way into the parade, I will do my best to stay in front of the horses, for two basic reasons: 1.) Photos of the horses approaching, with the Horse Guard members in their majestic ceremonial uniforms will look much better, and 2.) Most horses are not potty trained.

As we move forward, I overhear someone on the bus say that Route 4 was one of the first parkways in the area. It was designed to allow the president to be transported between the White House and Andrews Air Force Base. A short time later we pass Andrews, as we get closer to the city limits of our nation's capital.

0846 It's my first view of the capitol dome. Pockets of low fog dominate the skyline. The Washington Monument is a blurred silhouette through the fog. The top third of the monument looks like it's emerging from the clouds like a rocket blasting off.

0851 We pass the Smithsonian Institute. The sidewalks are busy everywhere, with people heading for the parade route.

0854 The first float I see has a giant eagle on the front, and is loaded with U.S. flags. Behind it is another float with TEXAS in giant letters on the side. There's no surprise that the new president's other home state will be well represented in today's festivities.

0857 The majesty of the Capitol Building breaks through the fog, while the glorious red, white and blue of the giant flags draping the façade brighten the area. This will be a great day!

0858 The bus pulls into the assembly area, near the Department of Health and Human Services.

0915 The Horse Guard members get their horses off the horse trucks.

0943 While wandering around the assembly area taking photos of the preparation for the parade, I receive my first reminder that horses are not potty trained.

0952 The 3rd U.S. Army Infantry Caisson Platoon arrives. Commonly known as the "Old Guard," these soldiers rode their horses several miles, all the way from Fort Myer, Virginia. This is the only full-time mounted horse unit in the world. I meet one member from Connecticut. He knows all about the Governor's Horse Guard. I take photos of the saddles and the intricate designs on the attachments.

Continued on page 18

103rd Civil Engineers Support March AFB

STORY BY CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL III, 103rd FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER
PHOTOS BY LT. COL. MICHAEL F. LILYA, BASE CIVIL ENGINEER, 103rd CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

The 103rd Fighter Wing's 103rd Civil Engineer Squadron deployed to the West Coast Regional Training Site at March Air Force Base (AFB), Calif. January 14 - 27, 2001.

The host unit, 163rd Air Refueling Wing, had requested engineer support for four objectives they believed a reserve unit could complete in two weeks. Due to the abundance of experience in the 103rd's members, 80 percent of the scheduled two-week's work was complete by the fourth day.

Members were able to go beyond the 163rd Air Refueling Wing's request. According to Lt. Col. Michael F. Lilya, deployment commander and base civil engineer, 103rd Civil Engineer Squadron. "We poured twice as much concrete as originally scheduled, the electricians did three times more light fixture replacements than they thought we could, and we did four or five other work orders."

"We had an experienced crew and they were impressed with us," said Master Sgt. Roland J. Soucy, supply technician, 103rd Civil Engineer Squadron. "I think if we want to go back there we will be able to go back."

In addition to 36 members of the 103rd Civil



Master Sgt. David J. Hadden works inside a storm drain concrete form.



Tech. Sgt. David P. Bellinghieri, and Tech. Sgt. Steven D. Sweeney make quick work of moving a pile of lumber.

Engineer Squadron, the unit brought along two vehicle maintainers from the 103rd Logistics Squadron.

"Some of the heavy equipment was long broken and in need of repair," said Lilya about the tasks for the pair. "They did an outstanding job there, they were able to fix stuff the people there (March, AFB) could not."

The base assigned three military and three State employees to provide support to the team from Connecticut.

One of the individuals assigned was the actual planner of the training site under construction. According to Lilya this enabled the team to get immediate about the project. A second individual was assigned as the "Go-for." That individual had a government credit card so the team never lacked for material. "These two individuals were the key to being 80 percent complete in the first week," said Lilya.

"We got very good support from the people out there," said Soucy. "All the material was there so we could start working the first day, and we never stopped."

A deployment for training offers the opportunity to meet training goals and also allows members to broaden their experience working outside their Air Force Specialty Code.

On the return trip, about ten minutes out, an engine blew followed by trouble with a second. The aircraft landed without incident at North Island Naval Air Station, San Diego, Calif.

The prognosis for the aircraft was not good. As the members began to look around the island and wonder about when they would resume the trip home, the deployment commander contacted the 103rd Fighter Wing's Master Sgt. Joseph Abele back in Connecticut.

"We would not have been able to get out of there had it not been for Joe Abele," said Lilya. "He was on the phone with the airline, arranged for the cargo, and called a San Diego charter bus operator at home."

The squadron members ended up taking a commercial flight in their BDU's mixed among the passengers. Having arrived just 30 minutes before takeoff with bags and cargo the now packed flight had to be delayed 30 minutes. The delay could have caused some ill will had it not been for the courtesy of the flight crew and the 103rd engineers.

"The recruiters would have been proud to hear these airmen talk about the Guard," said Lilya. "When we landed, the stewardess thanked the military for flying and serving our country and we got applause from the whole airplane. A real surprise after we delayed the take-off by 30 minutes."



The crew from Connecticut built ten 16' x 32' hard back tents to be used by Army, Air Force, FBI, and Drug Enforcement Agency training site.



Senior Airman Derek J. Eggerman and Staff Sgt. Glenn A. Dakin prepare pieces for one of the ten hardback tents.



Tech. Sgt. Victor T. Greenwood, Master Sgt. Carl A. Sundwall, Tech. Sgt. Domenic H. Santoro, Tech. Sgt. Kevin Peak, and Tech. Sgt. Norman T. Miller place concrete for one of the concrete pads.



The crew poses on top of the training-shelter pavilion roof.

Rendering Final Honors

By SGT. JOSEPH C. DeCARO

Headquarters and Headquarters Company,
242nd Engineer Combat Battalion

It's the last honor you can render to a fellow soldier.

And with the current exodus of an entire generation of World War II warriors, fulfilling that obligation has now become even more of a challenge for the Guardsmen at the Stratford Armory as well as many other armories across Connecticut.

The Military Funeral Honors (MFH) squads in Stratford usually render honors on a daily basis and have to deal with multiple requests on weekends and occasionally on holidays such as Veterans Day.

According to Connecticut National Guard Regulation 347-106, MFH squads are composed of no less than three nor more than five rifle bearers and one bugler (when available). Failure to provide this represents a serious breach of protocol, even if given less than 24-hour-notice from family, friends and funeral directors of the deceased veteran.

In an attempt to help insure full compliance with this, the stipend for Guard retirees — who usually make up the majority of the MFH squads — was recently increased from \$30 to \$50 per day according to Sgt. 1st Class Louis A. Abrams.

A retired 23-year veteran currently residing in New Haven, Abrams is an MFH squad member and was the battalion personnel sergeant in Stratford, a position that made him responsible for the extensive paperwork necessary to authenticate each and every service rendered from the armory.

Abrams said above and beyond the economics of military funerals, it's a benefit that all deceased veterans have earned.

He said his most memorable service was six months ago at St. Mary's Cemetery, Milford, for a retired police commissioner who was a World War II vet. About 75 policemen — some mounted on horseback, some on motorcycle — were in attendance as a horse-drawn caisson carried the casket.

"It was the most officiated (funeral) I've ever seen," said Abrams.

Last year, Abrams performed 178 funeral details and once did a career high of 205.

Another retiree, Chief Warrant Officer Ronald M. French of Milford, estimates he has participated in more than 2,500 funeral details, sometimes performing as many as three in a single day.

French suggests that anyone who participates in MFH squads keep a personal record of their participation for pay purposes.

Last year, the Stratford Armory's Area of Responsibility to furnish MFH squads increased by seven towns as it provided military honors for 281 funerals. This increase represented six percent of Connecticut's total population, thus increasing the 242nd's total population responsibility to more than 30 percent of the entire state's 3,500,000 residents.

In addition, the number of funeral squads for World War II and Korean War vets is expected to rise and peak in 2002.

Unfortunately, retired vets are not the only service members receiving final honors. Last year, the 65th Press Camp — which includes Detachment 1, Connecticut National Guard — performed this service for two of their own members who died tragically in an auto accident during annual training at Devens in preparation for a Balkan deployment.

MFH squads go back to Roman times when soldiers would wish fallen comrades "Hail and farewell" three times as they beat their breast with a closed fist. During the Revolutionary War, cease-fires were commonplace to bury the dead. Afterward, a three-volley salute would signal the opposing side that the dead were now buried and hostilities could again commence.

Today, honorably discharged vets are still entitled to a three-volley salute at graveside.

A 21-gun salute is actually reserved for cannon fire during ceremonies, not funerals, said French.

Medical Professionals Needed by Fighter Wing

STORY BY: CAPT. GEORGE H. WORRALL III
103RD FIGHTER WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Dentists, physicians and nurses are needed to fill Guard positions right now at the 103rd Fighter Wing Medical Squadron in East Granby.

Currently the Connecticut Air National Guard has a shortage of doctors.

"Right now we have two dentist and two nurse positions open plus we could take on four physicians," said Lt. Col. Michael P. Byrnes, chief, 103rd Military Personnel Flight. "We have one dentist in-process, so are searching for one more. We need the physicians as Flight Surgeons and could bring in one as a non-flight doctor."

According to Byrnes, experience and education determines what grade they are commissioned at, which normally ranges from second lieutenant to captain.

Besides the obvious benefits of officer pay and retirement, a medical professional career in the guard has other benefits.

"Dentists can attend a special school called Top Drill, and optometrists attend Top Eye," said Chief Master Sgt. Doreen J. Bassingthwaite, health services manager, 103rd Medical Squadron. "The school orientates them to the flying community and includes a flight in a fighter aircraft like an F-16."

Flight surgeons, as the name implies, fly on

a regular basis. "A doctor stationed here flies in Army Guard helicopters, plus the transports and fighter aircraft of nearby bases and during deployed training," said Bassingthwaite. "They need to meet a minimum numbers of flights every quarter."

Flights are a routine part of training at active duty hospitals. Bassingthwaite explained that training fits a four-year cycle with two training trips to active duty hospitals, support of an operational readiness inspection, and medical field training at a Medical Readiness Training Center.

"We provided humanitarian medical aid in Honduras four years ago, said Bassingthwaite. "It was very gratifying to help the people there."

"If you are current and earn at least a satisfactory in inspections you can deploy overseas every five years. We are going to an active duty hospital in England in the coming year." The humanitarian mission followed the last four-year cycle.

Beyond training and flights, medical officers earn continuing education units, required by both the military and civilian medical communities, by attending annual conventions and training schools. The providers and nurses earn CEU's from the training, which maximizes the training time according to Bassingthwaite.

For more information contact Lt.Col. Michael P. Byrnes to discuss requirements and set up an interview with the medical staff at (860)292-2339.

The basic medical education and license requirements are different for each professional specialty and are available on the Internet at www.goang.af.mil.

A dentist must possess a Doctor of Dental Surgery or degree of Dental Medicine from a school of dentistry acceptable to the Surgeon General USAF. They also need 24 months of experience or the completion of a general practice residency.

A Doctor of Medicine must be a graduate of a medical school approved by the Surgeon General USAF, or of a foreign medical school with permanent certification by the Educational Council for Foreign Medical Graduates.

A nurse must be a graduate of a school of nursing accredited by the National League of Nursing and acceptable to the Surgeon General, USAF. Must have passed the state board examination in nursing and possess current registration in at least one state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico or a territory of the U.S. and meet degree requirements.

The National Guard Association of Connecticut Announces the 7th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

*March 24, 2001
Legislative Office
Building,
Hartford, CT*

8:00 - 9:00 Registration

9:00 - 13:00 Business
Session

For more information, please contact
SGM(Ret) Joe Amatruda at (860)
247-5000 or via e-mail at
joseph.amatruda@snet.net
Check out the NGACT Web Page at
<http://www.ngact.org>

**All current and former
members of the Army
and Air National Guard
are encouraged to
attend!**

If you judge people, you have no time to love them. Mother Theresa

Governor's Horse Guards March for President Bush

STORY AND PHOTOS BY STAFF SGT. STEVE MARKOWSKI,
65TH PCH

WASHINGTON, D.C.—One of the U.S.A.'s most historic traditions takes place every four years, as a president elected by the people is sworn in at the U.S. Capitol Building. And for most of the past several Inaugural parades, two of the nation's most historic militia units have played an important role in the festivities.

The 54th Presidential Inaugural festivities, January 20, 2001, brought both the First and Second Companies, Governor's Horse Guard, both members of the Connecticut State Militia. The First Company traces its roots back to 1776, and holds the distinction as the oldest continually operating cavalry unit in the world. The Second Company was chartered by the Connecticut General Assembly in 1808. More recently, either company has participated in presidential inaugural parades honoring people named Eisenhower, Carter, Reagan, Bush and Bush.

The two companies combined to add 52 mounted horses in this year's inaugural parade. Troops from the units wore their

full, ceremonial uniforms in the 1.9-mile parade from the U.S. Capitol Building, down Pennsylvania Avenue to the White House. The Inaugural Committee for President George W. Bush invited both units to participate in the parade, representing the state in which the new commander-in-chief was born. The fourth parade division included the Trumbull High School Golden Eagle Marching Band, which like the First Company, Governor's Horse Guard, participated in the 1989 inaugural parade for President George H. Bush, who was also born in Connecticut.

The Second Co. went to Washington for President Reagan's second inaugural, in 1985; but extreme cold and a wind-chill factor of 40-below zero forced the cancellation of the parade. This year's January cold was exacerbated by constant rain, although the sleet and snow that had been expected held off until after the parade. The National Mall, where the units have traditionally prepared for inaugural parades, was fenced off because the ground was so damp. Although

the time on the parade route was approximately 45 minutes for each of the Horse Guard companies, the parade itself lasted several hours. And the troops, who are all volunteers, and horses dealt with wintry elements before, during and after the parade.

The First Company participated in the second parade division, stepping off at about 3:30 p.m. The Second Company stepped off at 5 p.m., amid the twilight of a long day of ceremonies honoring the nation's past, present and future. The Second Company was one of the last units to honor the new president in the parade. Both units spent several long days in the D.C. area preparing for the parade. The longest of the days was Inauguration Day, which required them to get their horses ready well before dawn, and to stay outside for more than twelve hours tending to the horses and marching in formation with tens of thousands or participants from all over the country.

"It was a long day for all of us, but when you turn that corner and head down Pennsylvania Avenue, and you see the president, it's an amazing feeling. It's quite an honor to represent the state," said First Company Commandant Maj. Richard Beliveau. He also noted another honor from a good friend of the president, and someone who is quite familiar with the Governor's Horse Guard. "When we went by the reviewing stand, Governor Rowland and his wife Patty came down from their box to greet us. So, this year it was a double honor."

The First Company had a stopover in Michelton, New Jersey on the way home, keeping their horses in the 4-H stables there. The next day, "half the town was out taking pictures," Beliveau said. The First Company finally made it back to Avon about 24 hours after the parade ended, closing an inaugural journey that began five days earlier. It was a new experience for all but four members of the company. "As rough as the week was, with the rain and cold, and the long days, I didn't hear one complaint," Beliveau added.



President Bush



Celebrate Women's History Month



By 2ND LT. PAMELA TOWNSEND

The Federal Employed Women Program is an excellent opportunity for women to mentor, educate, and achieve positional power in the work place as we enter the new millennium. The mentorship provides an opportunity for each party to give and receive valuable knowledge lasting a lifetime. Education affords women the opportunity to change their career path, community, county and family. Because education can never be taken away, new doors are opened putting women in decision-making roles to achieve positional power in the work place.

The Federal Employed Women Program focuses on specific programs to eliminate sex discrimination and provide better opportunities for career advancement. One of many objectives is to improve the quality of life for women by influencing Congressional and Administration actions. Most importantly, Federal Employed Women Program works to achieve a unified and diverse membership that values and capitalizes on similarities and differences at all levels of the organization parallel to the mission of the National Guard.

In the National Guard we celebrate the many accomplishments of women in the military. We admire their dedication, loyalty, level of tolerance and most of all their love for their

country. It is time we take their accomplishments to another level. It is time we said thank you for your sacrifices, thank you for the fine country, which you were instrumental in building, after all no one dances without music. We have the necessary tools to enhance the path, which they unselfishly created.

Our National Guard mission is to support and defend our great State and Country and we are "THE BEST", but I challenge all women to become a part of the Federal Employed Women Program. It will enhance your mission readiness and give you the tools to create an even better path for generations to come. Women were not welcomed into the Guard until 1950. According to an Air National Guard article by the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Service, 50 years later we are only about 10 percent of the total force. That means we have grown five percent every ten years. How will you change the future?

The Federal Employed Women Celebration will be held in March 2001. Show your appreciation for the past, by getting involved with the future. For more information call 524-4910.

Sources for this article:

www.few.org

www.ngb.dtic.mil

Safe GUARDing Connecticut's Future ClubDrugs

By MAJ. CHUCK STRONG,
DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION ADMINISTRATOR

In our October 2000 column the Club Drug "Ecstasy and what Parents should know" was the feature. Well, since then, in the first weeks of 2001 a Boston man attending a Hartford RAVE Party died from club drug cocktailing (using several types of drugs at the same time). He had taken GHB, Ecstasy, Percadons, Ketamine and alcohol during the evening and died on his way back to Boston. A second man attending the same party from New Hampshire was hospitalized because of drug cocktailing, his condition listed as serious. As educating Americans about drug abuse is the Office of National Drug Control's number one goal, I have been able to find a great source of information about these club drugs. Please take the following information and use it to educate your soldiers, friends and children. More information can be found at www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov and www.nida.nih.gov.

None of these "club drugs" are particularly new; many have been around since the 70s but a recent surge has developed among teens and young adults at dance clubs and "raves." These drugs, collectively termed "club drugs," include MDMA/Ecstasy (methylenedioxymethamphetamine), Rohypnol (flunitrazepam), GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyrate), and ketamine (ketamine hydrochloride).

Producing both stimulant and psychedelic effects, MDMA is often used at parties because it enables party-goers to dance and remain active for longer periods of time. The tasteless and odorless depressants Rohypnol and GHB are often used in the commission of sexual assaults due to their ability to sedate and intoxicate unsuspecting victims. GHB can be found in an odorless, colorless liquid form or as a white powdered material and is taken orally, frequently being combined with alcohol. Ketamine, a tranquilizer most often used on animals, has also recently been found at parties and produces hallucinatory effects similar to those of PCP and LSD.

Recent research of Use

Among high school students surveyed in 1999, 5.6 percent of 12th graders, 4.4 percent of 10th graders, and 1.7 percent of 8th graders stated that they had used MDMA in the past year. 6.8 percent of college students and 7.2 percent of young adults (ages 19-28) surveyed in 1998 reported that they had used MDMA at least once in their lifetimes.

According to the 1998 National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, approximately 3.4 million people had reported having used MDMA at least once in their lifetime. The greatest number of MDMA users fell into the 18-25 year-old category with slightly greater than 1.4 million people reporting its use.

Consequences of Use

Using MDMA can cause serious psychological and physical damage. The psychological effects can include confusion, depression, anxiety, and paranoia and may last weeks after ingesting MDMA. It can also cause muscle breakdown and kidney and cardiovascular system failure. According to Dr. Alan Leshner, Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse "MDMA inhibits the brain's ability to bind the chemical neurotransmitter serotonin. Serotonin is critical to normal experiences of mood, emotion, pain and a wide variety of other behaviors. In general, MDMA users, had poorer performance results in three general intelligence tests, they also required more repetitions to learn a word that both the marijuana and the non-drug users, and when compared to the non-drug users had poorer short-term memory performance. The researchers concluded that MDMA use over a period of months or a few years may cause long-term impairment of cognitive performance even when taken in relatively small doses".


Rohypnol, GHB, and Ketamine are all central nervous system (CNS) depressants. Lower doses of Rohypnol can cause muscle relaxation and can produce general sedative and hypnotic effects. In higher doses, Rohypnol can cause a loss of muscle control, loss of consciousness, and partial amnesia. When combined with alcohol, Rohypnol can be deadly.

GHB has been shown to produce drowsiness, nausea, unconsciousness, seizures, severe respiratory depression, and coma. GHB has also increasingly become involved in poisonings, overdoses, "date rapes," and fatalities. For example, GHB poison information episodes in Miami that involved people younger than 20 increased from less than 10 percent of the medical emergencies in 1997 to 54 percent of such emergencies in the first three quarters of 1998.

You may be disappointed in you fail, but you are doomed if you don't try. Beverly Sills

ACHIEVING FINANCIAL SUCCESS

Date: Tue 21 March 2001
 Time: 1900 - 2000 hrs
 Location: See Below
 POC: Christine Barden
 860-524-4911



Make financial success last a lifetime by learning about:

- Financial topics, from goal-setting, net worth and cash flow to tips for reducing taxes.
- Investment strategies such as dollar-cost averaging, diversification and asset allocation.
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Mr. Ronald Berry, Financial Advisor for American Express, will be our presenter. Mr. Berry has many years of experience and will make the briefing interesting and informative.

This briefing is open to all Guardsmen (traditional and full-time employees). Spouses are also encouraged to attend. Please call today to reserve a seat. There is only a limited number of spaces available and will be honored on a first come first served basis.

Date	Location
7 Mar 01	141st ASG, 348 Main Road, Hartford, CT
21 Mar 01	CT AVCRAD, 129 Tower Ave., Groton, CT

Connecticut Army & Air National Guard
 Human Resources Office
 Soldier-Airman Support Center
 251 Main Road
 Hartford, CT 06114-1606

Phone: 860-524-4931
 Fax: 860-524-4919
 Email: christine.barden@ctnag.army.mil

Abbot Named CTANG Airman of the Year

By CAPT. GEORGE WORRALL, III,
103rd FW PA

"I was surprised," said Senior Airman Benjamin R. Abbot, Air National Guard Airman of the Year about hearing of his selection. "There are a lot of different great candidates so I think it is a great honor to be selected over all the other members of the 103rd Fighter Wing and 103rd Air Control Squadron."

Abbot has stood out as a top performer since joining the Connecticut Air National Guard in 1997 following his graduation from Bloomfield High School. After basic training and attending the Supply Management Apprentice Course at Lackland Air Force Base (AFB), Texas, he returned as a Document Control and Inventory Specialist, 103rd Logistics Squadron. His demonstrated skills and abilities earned him the Logistics Squadron Airman of the Month for June 1998.

Although Abbot had planned to attend college full-time, he chose instead to take the opportunity to become a full-time technician. An opportunity he attributes to "being in right place at the right time."

The guard is not Abbot's first military experience. He was in the Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps during high school, which whet his appetite for more service.

"I did JROTC while I was in high school for three years," said Abbot. "When the program first started there (Bloomfield High School), I was one of the first members. It gave me a lot of



experience so when it came time for basic I knew all the marching, Air Force history and so on."

Although his Air Guard career started a new chapter for Abbot he has remained engaged with the JROTC unit where he was a charter member.

"I was helping out with JROTC at Bloomfield High School. A couple weeks after I got back from basic training. I see good kids with a lot of potential in the program. I like that the kids are taking the steps to do something with their lives. While other kids are failing classes, most of these kids have a "B" average since JROTC keeps their minds set on a positive track."

With his clear interest in the military why did he chose the Guard before the active duty?

"I wanted to stay close to home," he said. "I thought it would be great to stay home and be close to family rather than the active duty where you could be sent anywhere. I think the Air Guard is more like a family environment."

While he takes classes and assists with JROTC in his free time, Abbot plans to make a long career of the Guard.

"I am gonna stay for a career until I am 50 or 55 years old," he said. "I would like to make Chief (chief master sergeant) some day."

Henderson named Air Guard Senior NCO of the Year

By CAPT. GEORGE WORRALL, III,
103rd FW PA

"It is hard for me to even grasp it," said Master Sgt. Thomas L. Henderson, about his selection as the Air National Guard Senior NCO of the Year. "I guess you always belittle or downplay your accomplishments to yourself, you don't really think you are special."

Henderson, assistant non-commissioned officer in charge of the maintenance control section, 103rd Air Control Squadron, is a skilled technical expert in both the military and civilian sector. After graduating in the top 10 percent of his Wilbur Cross High School class in 1980, he joined the Connecticut Air National Guard as an Aerospace Control Technician. The New Haven native was selected to continue training, completing the Air Force's Satellite Communication School and then moved to the Satellite and Wideband Communications Section.

A known technical expert, Henderson's skills are frequently sought to support United States Air Forces Europe and NATO. For Henderson this has meant travel to the North, South and Central Europe.

"I looked at (joining) the military to go places I have never been before," he said. "Also, to me the Navy and Air Force have the best education, so I chose the Air Force near my home in New Haven (Orange, Air National Guard Base)."

Henderson earned his Associates Degree of Applied Science in Electrical Engineering



Technology from the Community College of the Air Force in 1990. He is taking classes to earn his bachelors degree at the University of New Haven. In 1997 he completed management training at the NCO Academy earning the Distinguished Graduate Award.

His full-time career is equally technical. He works as a Network Technical Manager for Southern New England Telephone (SNET) in New Haven, where he explained he "installs and maintains software on the nationwide network for SNET's parent company."

"It is really the (other) people," is how he describes why he has met so much success. "I have always had good supervisors, who let me talk openly, and freely express myself." The supervisors gave him constructive criticism that helped him. "When you get positive feedback it just encourages you to strive and then to do better."

In the future he looks forward to finishing a genealogy project on his grandmother, who just turned 95, "I have two kids and want them to know about their roots."

Gruendel is Air Guard NCO of the Year

By CAPT. GEORGE WORRALL, III,
103rd FW PA

"There are a lot of people who have made it possible for me to feel good about being a cop through this recognition," said Tech. Sgt. David H.S. Gruendel, Air National Guard Noncommissioned Officer of the Year explaining how his selection effected him. "What I am doing most is sharing this with others."

Gruendel, a fire team leader with the 103rd Security Forces Squadron, has a history of accomplishment and leadership that he brings to bear on everything he does. Beginning his military career in the active duty Army in 1988, he followed Basic Training with Advanced Infantry Training to qualify as a paratrooper through Fort Benning's Army Airborne School. Assigned to Korea for a year, Gruendel returned stateside in 1990 for an assignment at Fort Campbell, Ky. There he graduated from the US Army Air Assault School and earned the Expert Infantryman Badge. Then for six months, he put all his training to the test in Desert Shield and Desert Storm from September 1990 to March 1991. Returning to Kentucky, he demonstrated his leadership skills earning the Leadership Award and Honor Graduate from Army Primary Leadership Development Course at the fort.

"I joined the Army to get some perspective while I was in college," he said explaining his initial three-year break from college to serve in the Army. The tables turned in his life and he took a four-year break from the military to attend college full time.

He received his Bachelors of Arts in Political



Science, cum laude, in 1994 and stayed on to completed his Masters of Education in Secondary Education during 1995 at the University of Pennsylvania.

Shortly after beginning his professional education career as a Social Studies teacher at Branford High School, he joined the Connecticut Air National Guard in December 1995.

"In the security forces we use the same tactics and formations as the Army," he said drawing parallels to the 103rd Security Forces Squadron and the Army. He commented that "outside of the fact we are defensively orientated" much of the security forces activity is like the Army, which is a reason he enjoys the experience so much.

Gruendel explained his reasons for joining the military as two-fold. When his father was a Navy aviator on an EC-121 (the forerunner to the AWACS) shotdown by North Korea in 1969. Born in Japan during 1968 he was only a year old when his father was killed; but Gruendel said since his father had been in the service "joining the military was a way to get closer to him."

The other reason to join was his outlook as an American. "I see my service as an important thing," he said. "It is the idea that we have responsibilities as citizens, and this is the way I act out mine."

Stellon Jr. is Air Guard First Sgt. of the Year

By CAPT. GEORGE WORRALL III,
103rd FW PA

"I am honored (to be selected) given the caliber of first sergeants we have," said Master Sgt. Eugene A. Stellon Jr., commenting on his selection as the Connecticut Air National Guard First Sergeant of the Year. "The military gave me the ability to grow as a person from the very beginning."

Stellon, appointed as the 103rd Support Group First Sergeant, Bradley Air National Guard Base, in 1998, has stood out since he joined the military. He began his military career in the active duty Air Force as a precision measurement equipment technician in avionics maintenance. Joining in 1987, he was selected for early promotion in the Below the Zone airman promotion program in 1988 after twice earning recognition as Airman of the Month at Plattsburg Air Force Base (AFB), NY.

Leaving the active force to attend college in 1990, he transferred to the Connecticut Air National Guard. He retrained into the Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) career field and was selected as the Honor Graduate from his initial CATM training.

A friend from his base in New York had joined the Connecticut Air Guard and told Stellon of the opportunity. "I interviewed and found out about the guard ...the education benefits, still maintaining a military presence, a different job,



and I was impressed with the people I met during my interview," said Stellon explaining why he joined the Guard. The people he met must have also been impressed, appointing him the NCOIC in 1996.

"I left (active duty) to go to college," he said. He earned a Bachelors of Science from Central Connecticut State University in Electrical Systems, and earned Associates degrees from the Community College of the Air Force in Criminal Justice and Electrical Systems.

Originally from Carmel, NY, he resides in Southington with his wife and two children. He works full-time as an Engineering Manager at United States Surgical in North Haven.

Stellon's goal in the military now is to make the First Sergeant's Council more visible.

"Making sure our people are trained, aware of the importance of family care, suicide prevention and all the other (training) items out there. Plus, we have to make sure people are motivated and ready for AEF."

Does he have any words of advice others may follow? "I found if you invest the effort, the rewards will come."

The Lamp

By FIRST SGT. JOHN BUTLER, SR.

Would you like to make a difference? Enhance your leadership skills? We, at the 169th Regiment (LDR) are, each year, looking for sergeants first class and staff sergeants to be instructors or assistant instructors. Here is where you can impact the Guard the most. You'll help train soldiers from different military occupational specialties and different units, including the U. S. Army reserve.

If you don't meet the instructor requirements, we can get you to that level through the many courses we offer here at the regiment.

Also, we are constantly looking for good officers. Our Officer Candidate School (OCS) program is second to none. OCS candidates will train with seven other states during a 15-day Phase I held at Camp Rowland.

If you're interested in any of the above programs, please contact Sgt. 1st Class Charles Bussher at (860) 691-4220, 4214, 4213. Enhance your skills and leadership abilities and have a positive impact on the Connecticut Army National Guard.

NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT



By LT. COL. BILL SHEA —
WILLIAM.SHEA@CT.NGA.ARMY.MIL

The National Guard Association of Connecticut (NGACT) is proud to announce the recipients of its 2000 Scholarship Program.

NGACT started its Scholarship Program in 1999. Initial interest was low, but in 2000 the interest has peaked significantly. We had seventeen applicants for the scholarship program this year. Applicants included soldiers, airmen, their children and spouses. The applicant pool included both Army and Air.

Each of the applicants was evaluated on the following criteria: financial need, academic excellence, community involvement, leadership and honors received. The pool of applicants was very talented and showed a very diverse background. Each of the applicants is to be congratulated for taking the time to apply for an NGACT scholarship.

The recipients of the NGACT 2000 Scholarships are as follows:

William L. Bridgeford, son of Master Sgt. Stephanie L. Bridgeford, 118th Medical

Battalion. He is a student at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven.

Richard J. Mack, member of the 103rd Fighter Wing. He is a student at the University of Connecticut in Storrs.

Lara D. Mittaud, daughter of Chief Warrant Officer 3 Marc Mittaud, Company B, 2 Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment. She is a student at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, NY.

Kiley A. Newton, daughter of Sgt. 1st Class Debby Newton, Headquarters/Headquarters Detachment, State Area Command. She is a student at Naugatuck Valley Community College in Waterbury.

Annette Stachowski, daughter of Staff Sgt. (Ret) Valentine Stachowski, formerly of the 103rd Fighter Wing. She is a student at Boston University.

Congratulations to each of the recipients. Each recipient has received a \$500 scholarship from the NGACT. The details for the 2001 NGACT Scholarship Program will be out soon.

As I write this column, the NGACT will be

able to increase the amount of scholarship funds to our members in 2001. The ability of the NGACT to have a scholarship program is based on the donations of many of its members. This includes a portion of the funds raised by the NGACT Golf Tournament. Our thanks go to those who supported this event, especially to Warrant Officer 1 John Godburn and the team that worked with him to host this great event. Additionally, a donation by United Services Automobile Association (USAA) also helped to support this program.

To find out more about NGACT check out our web site at <http://www.ngact.org> or you can contact the NGACT Executive Director, Sgt. Maj. (Ret) Joe Amatruda at (860) 247-5000. He can provide you with additional information regarding NGACT and other programs. There is an answering machine in the office. If no one is in the office please leave a message, you will receive a return call, or you can contact us through the web page. We want to hear from you.

Opportunities are usually disguised as hard work, so most people don't recognize them. Ann Landers



ESGR

By Lt. Col. (Ret) Harry
Ritson
ESGR Public Affairs

With our nation's defense becoming ever more dependent on the National Guard and Reserves, it is appropriate to recognize the contribution of the members' employers, and the Department of Defense (DOD) is doing that by declaring 2001 as "The Year of the Employer." Employers facilitate the availability of their employees to participate in Guard training and missions. As we increasingly rely upon men and women who serve in our Guard and Reserves, we are placing a similar level of reliance upon their employers. We are asking them to make a very specific and very personal contribution within the confines of their companies — to maintain production, to reallocate the workload while the reservist is on military leave, and to guarantee the reservist their rightful job status when they return.

While employers could complain about the call-ups of their people and cite economic hardship, the vast majority sees this sacrifice as an opportunity to serve America. They see strong support for our military as an important civic responsibility. In fact, many employers go far beyond the legal requirements of granting military leaves of absence for their employees. For prolonged deployments, some offer pay differential, continued benefits and

DOD Declares 2001

"The Year of the Employer"

periodic communication during their employee's absence and see what they can do to alleviate concerns about job security and the families back home.

This is not all altruistic! There is a direct correlation between those companies who go beyond the legal level of support, and those who see in their reservist employees some extra attributes that make them excellent employees. Ford Motor Company said it best.

While receiving a major award from ESGR (Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve) for their reservist support, they stated, "We should be giving DOD an award because you provide to us our best employees. These are people who know how to work on a team, to aspire, to secure promotions. They know how to plan and how to lead. They are physically fit and they are drug-free. They are our best employees and are the best examples." Ford, like many employers, believes that people with military backgrounds bring a unique and diverse perspective to their employee base. By supporting their continuing careers as reservists, they also believe it is a win-win situation for both our nation and their companies.

It is particularly difficult for employers with smaller staffs, or those who must provide

round the clock service every day, to fill in when one or more of the employees must be absent because of military training or extended service. As a member of the National Guard or Reserve, are you doing all that you can to help your employer to support you? As a minimum you should give them early knowledge of your training schedule including drills, annual training and, if alerted, prolonged deployments. It also pays to keep them informed about your actual military activities so they can understand the significance of your participation and the training you receive. Let them know if any of that training is applicable at work — it could serve both your careers.

Also, if you feel you are getting good support from your employer, you might consider submitting them for a DOD Certificate of Appreciation Award under ESGR's "My Boss Is A Patriot" Program. It's a good way to communicate that you appreciate that support, and, who knows, it might prompt even greater support. Form a partnership with your employer that allows each partner to recognize and acknowledge the contribution each makes to this nation's defense. Submission forms are available from your unit's Recruiting and Retention NCO.

Are we Saving our Investment?

By Maj. Mike Vasile, RRC

I recently had the opportunity to visit with some of our soldiers who were ready to ETS.

I asked them if they had thought about reenlistment considering there was a \$2,500.00 reenlistment bonus for committing to a three-year enlistment contract. I also made a point to emphasize the many other benefits of continued membership to include the drill and annual training pay, training and promotion opportunities, exchange, commissary and VA home loan access, SGLI, and the many educational benefits available for continued service in the Connecticut Army National Guard.

But the most important thing I had to say to them which made the difference, was that we valued their service to our organization, state and nation and that they played a vital role in the overall readiness of their unit.

As NCO and Officer leaders it is our obligation to remember to personally counsel all our soldiers who might otherwise leave our guard because we did not invest the time to talk to them.

The National Guard Bureau has set a goal this year for each unit to retain 75 percent of those soldiers scheduled to ETS this year.

I believe we can reach that goal this year if every soldier is shown that we care and need him or her to remain part of our guard.

Story and photos by David Moore

the Post, Fort Dix Public Affairs Staff The 29th Division is preparing to head for peacekeeping operations as a stabilization force, SFOR10. Soldiers from the 78th Division and New Jersey Army National Guard provided a training platform for the 29th that gave the future deployers a taste of what awaits them in the war-torn region. Included in the 29th are soldiers from the Connecticut Army National Guard's 143rd Forward Support Battalion and Company B, 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry.

"Fort Dix turns into Bosnia for the soldiers' training," Maj. Hugh Mullaly, of the 78th Division, 5th Brigade, Fort Meade, Md., reported to Brig. Gen. Joseph Goode, assistant division commander of the 29th.

Just outside the building's door, soldiers of the 78th's training support brigade were conducting briefings. They stood in front of the replicated base camp called Camp Dobol, 29th soldiers manning four guard towers covering the main entrance to the facility.

Guards, many from the 143rd FSB, were forced to take protective measures to provide security to the base camp, thoroughly checking convoys both entering and leaving the camp.

The soldiers conducting training were part of the 29th combat service support slice of the division. They came from the division's support command, as well as from the 143rd Forward Support Battalion of the Connecticut Army National Guard.

More than 300 soldiers attended Sustainment and Stabilization Operations (SASO) training that provided a platform for soldiers to develop decisive decision-making skills in a scenario involving them in a former Soviet-block nation.

"We occupied a true to scale mock-up of Camp Dobol, complete with guard towers,



concertina wire and guard gates," said Spc. David Bordner, a combat medic with B Company, 143rd FSB's treatment platoon. "During this time, a number of scenarios were played out including media awareness, crowd control, and using a pre-determined quick reaction force. We had practical hands-on convoy scenarios, actually moving through lanes set up in the woods of Fort Dix. The training was quite realistic. The mission was

maneuver their convoy toward their objective without any illegal interference. At first, soldiers are indecisive, but as the training progresses, they become more decisive. To be successful in peacekeeping operations is just that — decisiveness," Lt. Col. Kenneth Wondrach, New Jersey Guard, said.

While Company A was preparing to move to another location in their training, another

turns out that the vehicles could not proceed because they had marked the location incorrectly as a detour. They could not fit over their new route and would face, in addition, a danger of running into mines on the opposite side of the



road.

"If you they leave the markings here, they just blocked their entire convoy or worse, place them on the soft shoulder of the road where more mines can be. For anyone who's been to Bosnia if you look at this road it is just as narrow as the ones they will be driving on in the Balkans," Sgt. 1st Class Dale Nesmith said.

Pfc. Rodney Davis, of the 143rd and a land surveyor as a civilian, explained that the training was a real as being in the country.

"As long as you had your SOPs (standard operating procedures) and the training, you can be successful" Davis said.

Davis, a former artilleryman, said he was looking forward to the deployment.

"I want the experience of being a peace keeper," he said. "I know I can bring the experience I have to the unit and more for a successful deployment. Whatever I do I bring a lot to the table," he said.

Pfc. Karten Reilly, one of the newest members of the unit and a full time college student, said the training always "put you on the move." At the end of the day with all the running, moving in a convoy, and the decisions you have to make you are pretty tired at the end of the day," she said.

Bordner said he was very impressed with both the quality and intensity of the training. He said the FSB has already completed TSIRT (Theater Specific Individual Readiness Training) at Fort Benning, and has been training intensely during weekend drills in preparation for both SASO and the deployment.

"Due to the intense, high-speed training, I feel most confident about the deployment," said Bordner. "The unit is really pulling together as a team, working together to achieve proficiency and setting high standards for the mission at hand."

1st Lt. Tom Bordner, Headquarters and Supply Company commander for the FSB agreed.

"SASO provided an opportunity for us to train collectively," he said. "Much of the time our training is focused at the squad/section level, and this training did a lot for platoon cohesiveness and team building."

(Sgt. 1st Class Debbi Newton, State Senior PANCO, CTARNG also contributed to this story.)



THE BOSNIA EXPERIENCE – 29th Division soldiers are faced with a protest outside the gates of a replicated Camp Dobol, Bosnia, during Sustainment and Stabilization Operations training at Fort Dix. Soldiers, below, mark off unexploded ordnance on the road during the four-day training event that was evaluated by observer controllers from the 78th Division.

to deliver humanitarian supplies to a designated location."

The combat service support soldiers spent four days facing three training lanes with each event being six hours in duration. Inside each lane, they experienced unauthorized roadblocks, weapons storage sites, civilians on the battlefield, mines, sniper fire, overhead artillery fire, and protests. Their mission was to conduct convoy operations and attempt to deliver humanitarian aid to an orphanage.

Correct unit responses determined how many times soldiers were required to complete tasks in different lanes. Sometimes units would repeat the same task four or five times.

For Company A, 143rd soldiers on a vehicle convoy, one of their first experiences were provided by uninformed Vojka Republika Srpska personnel, a role played by New Jersey Army National Guard soldiers. To be successful, they had to simply drive by. Instead, on the first day, they paused before waiting.

"This point tests the ability of soldiers to

convoy made their way through a lane that had simulated unexploded ordnance. When soldiers set up their defensive positions, two soldiers began to mark the area of the dangerous ordnance and radio back to higher headquarters where the devices were located.

However, when the area was marked off a 78th division observer controller approached the 29th soldier and gently spoke to them. It



Celebrating Women's History Month: A look at the history of women in the Army

By Cpl. Jim Fox

WEST POINT, N.Y. (ARNEWS, May 28, 1997) — The role of women in the American military dates back to the Revolutionary War when the functions of what are now known as combat service support were carried out by women.

"They were called 'Women of the Army,'" according to Col. Judith A. Luckett, a professor in the U.S. Military Academy History Dept.

"In the Continental Army, Gen. George Washington had specific orders stating how many women would be authorized per unit." An estimated 100,000 women may have been associated with the American Army in the Revolutionary War.

The services the women performed were some of the rudimentary medical services that were done at the time. "Molly Pitchers," was the nickname given to women who served with the Army. Some, such as Margaret Corbin, who served along side their husbands in battle, were not uncommon.

"Women who traveled with the Army did the cooking, and the clothing mending, but caused a great deal of consternation for Washington because he saw them as (making) the tooth-to-tail ratio too great. He tried to limit them," said Luckett.

"We also know that there were a number of (women) who served in the Army as soldiers. There was no such thing as a medical inspection when they came into the army. If you had a musket and you looked able-bodied, they took you," said Luckett.

"During the Civil War women were not formally attached to the Army. It was considered a rather low class occupation to be a nurse," said Luckett.

This didn't deter women such as Clara Barton from her role in following soldiers out onto the battlefield and being allowed

by the U.S. Sanitary Commission to participate with a number of other women in nursing soldiers, and setting up hospitals. Barton and Dorothea Dix, for example and a number of nameless, northern and southern women created a professional nursing corps, but it was like the American Red Cross, not a military organization," stated Luckett.

"We didn't have a professional military Nursing Corps, (the start of women in the Army), until the Spanish American War in 1898. A nurse corps auxiliary was created in 1901," she added.

"A number of mostly independent researchers have tried to investigate the number of women, (in the Civil War), who essentially dressed up as men and served in regular units, both North and South," Luckett explained.

Reportedly 300 women did this, Luckett explained. "Some of the evidence seems to point out that the women's 'mess mates' did seem to know they were (women dressed as men). But they had already proved themselves in battle so men had an attitude of, 'who cares.'"

It wasn't until WW II that women were allowed to enter branches of the Army other than the Nursing Corps. "In 1941 Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers and First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt started talking about creating a Women's Auxiliary," Luckett explained.

With the help of Army Chief of Staff Gen. George Marshall, Rogers and Mrs. Roosevelt tried to push the idea of a Women's Auxiliary through Congress against substantial opposition. "We're not even in a war yet!, why do we need women?" and, "What services would they perform?," were some of the questions, posed, according to Luckett.

By late 1941 with war at hand, it appeared the measure might be passed. The Women's Auxiliary Army Corps was created in May 1942. Oveta Culp Hobby was selected to be the first director of the WAAC and given the rank of colonel.

During the early part of American involvement in the war women stayed stateside. It wasn't until Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower requested that women come to North Africa that women were sent overseas.

"Eisenhower found the women useful in a variety of jobs — mostly in the signal area, such as telephone operator. Nursing, of course, was very much alive and well. Women held quartermaster positions and a number of secretarial positions, what one would call traditional women's jobs at the time," said Luckett.

"Women were so useful, and were releasing men for combat, that I asked for more. He is one of the major proponents for the use of the WAAC," Luckett explained.

In late 1943 the WAAC became the Women's Army Corps, WAC, which it remained until 1978.

"At the end of the war there was a request, mostly by women, that the WAC be retained as a permanent part of the Army. Rather than just as a wartime measure. From 1945 until 1948 the WAC was extended each year by a year until it was finally put into law in 1948 as a permanent Army branch," according to Luckett.

It was written into law that the WAC could not comprise more than two percent of the regular force. This ceiling remained until the Johnson administration.

"Major changes in the WAC started to occur in the late 1960s. Most would attribute them to the Civil Rights Movement and its spin-off — the Women's Rights Movement," said Luckett.

The 1970s were a time of great change for the role of women in the military. In 1973 U.S. involvement in Vietnam was ending and the military became an all-volunteer force. This caused the two percent ceiling, (technically eliminated, but still used), for women in the WAC to be exceeded. A doubling of the number of basic training units for women was needed.

The only way for a woman to come into the Army as an officer was by direct commission. A candidate had to already have at least a bachelor's degree. Competition was at the Department of the Army level. Less than 200 direct commissions were awarded each year, until the expansion raised the number to 350 or more.

Equalizing regulations were implemented in order to increase the number of women enlistments. Women were now allowed to be married and have dependents under the age of 18. They were also now allowed to live in government quarters.

It was during this time frame that Col. Luckett joined the Army.

She came in as a married, direct commission second lieutenant in 1974. She had completed her master's degree work by the time she joined and received her degree while she was at the WAC Basic Course.

Luckett wore the WAC brass during the first 11 weeks of her training when female officers were then branched-detailed. She has been a Signal Corps officer ever since.

The expansion of the all-volunteer force to women also included allowing women to attend the service academies. In the summer of 1976 the first female cadets began West Point. Arriving in the summer of 1980, shortly after those first female cadets graduated, Luckett was one of the first female Tactical Officers at USMA. She was also the first female faculty member to hold the rank of colonel, which she attained on Dec. 1, 1996.

(Editor's note: Fox was with the U.S. Military Academy public affairs office at the time this article was written.)

DoD Budget Increases Must Wait, but Pay Raise Safe

By JIM GARAMONE
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 2001 — Major changes to the Bush Administration DoD budget must wait on the completion of a force structure review, presidential spokesman Ari Fleischer said Jan. 31.

The fiscal 2002 defense request "will be a lean budget," Fleischer said. Still, the pay raise for service members that President Bush promised when he was campaigning for the office seems safe.

The 2002 budget submission "will reflect the President's campaign promises to increase the pay for the military, and to improve their housing," Fleischer said.

"But, beyond that, the President thinks the wise approach to take is for the Pentagon to figure out long-term what its strategic needs are before we simply start to throw money in the direction of defense," he added.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld alluded to the review during his confirmation hearings in January. Pentagon spokesman Rear Adm. Craig Quigley said the secretary fully agrees with the president's desire to conduct the review.

"The secretary certainly shares the president's vision of a need to take a

holistic look at our strategy, the capabilities to carry out that strategy as a nation and the defense department's piece in that overall strategy," Quigley said at a Feb. 1 news conference.

The review may be part of the congressionally mandated Quadrennial Defense Review, now underway, or it may be separate, Quigley said.

Rumsfeld does not have a specific plan to conduct the review, Quigley said, but expects to announce one soon. "It will be a near-term issue, but we're not there yet," he said.

Character cannot be developed in ease and quiet. Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired, and success achieved.

Helen Keller

141st Medical Company Conducts AT Prior to Balkans Deployment

STORY AND PHOTOS BY MAJ. JOHN R. WHITFORD
STATE PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

A cold January morning begins the 15-day annual training for 18 soldiers deploying to the Balkans as part of the Stabilization Force (SFOR-9) rotation. It is the first of three days of classroom training and briefings at their home station, New Britain Armory. The

packed day began with medical evacuation training and Landing Zone operations. As civilian media looked on, 18 soldiers loaded and unloaded patients in a Black Hawk helicopter.



training included soldier readiness preparation (SRP), NBC training, physical training, finance briefings, medical screening and the Code of Conduct.

On day four, the soldiers moved to Camp Rowland for training on radio communications, medical sustainment and land navigation. As they were preparing to move to Stone's Ranch Military Reservation (SRMR) for hands-on training, the time for them to put this classroom training to the test was rapidly approaching. In order to be deployable, each soldier must pass rigorous soldier skill testing.

On Monday, January 29, the soldiers moved to the airstrip at Stone's Ranch. The action

"This is exciting," said Spec. Tanya Bradley. "This is what we have been trained to do and I look forward to helping out on this deployment." That was the sentiment

"This is what we have been trained to do and I look forward to helping out on this deployment."

throughout the day as the soldiers enthusiasm increased throughout the long day.

"This is why I joined the Guard, to serve my country and community,"

said Sgt. John Rettman. After several hours of loading and unloading, unit members prepared for NBC training. Two hours later, the unit members sat down to enjoy a hot



meal.

The day was still not over. While sitting, getting warm and enjoying the hot meal, unit members prepared for night vision goggle training and night driving. With civilian media following their every move, the unit was still motivated and ready for the next assignment. At 2100 hours, the unit finished its training, and felt a collective sense of accomplishment having completed the mission.

The next several days the unit forged ahead. Through driver training, common task training (CTT), combat stress management to family briefings, the unit cohesion remained high.

On Saturday February 10, 2001, the soldiers of the 141st Medical Company, family and



provide support to the soldiers from afar and support the families and friends that they leave behind."

As final formation came on Sunday, February 11, 2001, unit members felt a somber yet exciting moment, knowing that their departure date is right around the corner. AT 01 gave the unit a taste of what to expect while deployed

in the Balkans.

"These are great kids," said Maj. Gen. William A. Cugno, the Adjutant General of the Connecticut National Guard. "They are professional, excited, technically and tactically proficient and look forward to working with their active duty counterparts."

friends gathered for a reception and dinner to honor the 18 soldiers deploying.

"They have trained hard and many others have spent a lot of time in assuring they are prepared for this deployment, especially the families," said Capt. Lesbia Nieves, commander of the 141st Medical Company. "Those of us that remain behind, have yet another journey ahead of us and that is to



DIARY from page 7

1150 I glance at my watch, and realize that we are just about 10 minutes from a new commander-in-chief.

1154 I walk to the corner of Independence Ave. I can see the packed seating area for the swearing-in ceremony, although I am too far to really see what's happening. I can hear the former secretary of defense being sworn in as the new vice president. Cheers erupt and camera flashes are visible. The cheers grow louder and more flash bulbs go off, and it becomes obvious that the new president is approaching center stage, preparing to take the oath of office.

12 noon Governor Bush becomes President Bush. The crowd goes wild all over the area, including the throngs of people in front of me on Independence Ave.

1202 The new president delivers his inaugural address. As someone who has written, and delivered, many speeches, I am disappointed that the amplified sound is not carrying to my location clearly enough for me to understand the words. As a patriotic American, I am thankful to have been at least close enough to see the U.S. Capitol at this historic moment, and to at least hear the new president's voice.

1230 Back in the assembly area, box lunches are served. Many people retreat to the warming tent. This is difficult for the Horse Guard members, who have to stay with their horses and equipment in the damp cold and

constant drizzle. I realize how lucky I am to have the luxury of staying in the tent. Even so, I have to check periodically to make sure my toes are still intact.

The 1st Company is in full colors, riding their horses in a circle. This keeps the horses focused on their mission for the day, and it will help the Horse Guard members keep the horses under control throughout the parade. The 2nd Company is getting its equipment ready. They must place their saddles in plastic bags.

1404 In the warming tent, the word is out for the 2nd Parade Division, which includes the 1st Co., Governor's Horse Guard, to move out. I still have to wait for the 5th Parade Division, which will feature the 2nd Co., Governor's Horse Guard. The 2nd Parade Division moves out at 1420, and approaches the infamous "Merge Point."

1500 The 1st Co. still has not made it as far as the Merge Point. I'm not able to go out and take photos of them, because I don't have a press pass. Actually, I'm told by the Secret Service that I can go out there, but I won't be able to get back into the assembly area. It makes no sense to me, but the Secret Service is bigger than I am, so I don't argue.

1515 The 2nd Company, in ceremonial dress, is riding the horses in a circle, on the cement plaza of a building in the assembly area. The plaza is covered, keeping them drier than if they were on the street. I'm told that the exercise will not only keep the horses well-behaved, and it also allows them to shed

more moisture through their hair.

1530 The warming tent has become the "defrosting tent." Word goes out that the 5th division is moving out in "three minutes." Someone then jokes "moving out in 300 minutes." Well, it turns out that it was less than 300 minutes. It was certainly more than three minutes.... In fact it was also more than 30 minutes.

1600 The 2nd Co., and the 5th parade division, finally moves out. We stop about a half-block away from the assembly area. Progress toward the infamous Merge Point is extremely slow. We are waiting for the parade groups approaching from our left, including high school and college bands from around the country.

We advance a few steps, approximately every 15 minutes.

1700 Finally, we feel like we're in a moving parade. We round the corner onto Pennsylvania Ave., and I realize that I've never seen so many security people in one place, for one event. They include police from various municipalities and plain-clothed security people (presumably Secret Service and their augmentees). Fortunately, there are countless military personnel, giving me confidence that I'll be able to pull this off and stay in the parade all the way. I don't go crazy taking pictures, because I don't want to attract attention. But, I hope to efficiently snap some shots to appropriate the Horse Guard's involvement in this historic event. The darkness is challenging, but I'm hopeful the photos will come out.

1710 The National Archives is on our left. The bleachers on both sides of the route are not as packed as we expected. It's apparent that many people were chased away by the steady rain, which is raising havoc with the camera, the lens and the flash. My lens cloths are soaked, but still doing the job.

1714 I'm a few steps ahead of the Horse Guard, just as I planned. I'm snapping my photos comfortably, still looking out for anyone who might immediately realize that I lack the "Military Escort" armband that those who have that duty are wearing. A group of security people, military and civilian, begin making their way directly toward me at a high rate of speed. Gulp! I've been spotted. I just bought myself a one-way trip to Leavenworth, and an extensive beating – though not necessarily in that order.

My past and present lives flash before my eyes, until I realize they were just trying to cross the street hastily enough to avoid getting trampled by the Horse Guard. If they had tried anything, my horse-mounted friends would have protected me. It's good to have big friends in high places.

And, hey... extreme paranoia is not necessarily a bad thing, is it?

1730 We continue along this historic avenue, and it's getting darker by the minute. But, the big moment is nearly upon us, and every step brings us closer to the VIP reviewing stand.

1745 We turn the corner and see the Presidential Reviewing stand. The feeling is difficult to describe. This is why we are

here, and all the waiting in the rain and cold definitely seems worth it. I'm thrilled to be here, and I'm also thrilled to see the floodlights brightening the parade route in the VIP area. Not only am I about to see the new president, but there will finally be enough light for some photos. But, one of the biggest thrills I've ever had is about to take place, as I will witness the president saluting the Horse Guard representing the state where he was born. The public address announcer identifies the 2nd Co., Governor's Horse Guard, representing Connecticut.

I stop to take as many photos as I can until I'm told to move on. Someone behind me yells at me to get moving again. I turn around and see that it's not the Secret Service, but it's a civilian TV crew. With little sympathy, I apologize, and then take my time moving along. After a few more pictures, the crew yells at me again. The parade has ended, and the president and first lady give a "Goodbye!" wave to the crowd. The long day has been worth it, although I have to catch up with the Horse Guard, which is no longer visible to me.

1752 I begin a double-time walk in the direction of what I had been told would be a likely rally point. I catch up with the company, and we just keep walking toward the buses. The troops who marched in the parade are feeling the effects of being on their feet all day, and marching nearly two miles in boots that are made for riding horses and not walking.

1815 After walking at least another mile, we arrive at the bus, near the Department of the Interior. The mounted troops and the crew members are putting away their equipment.

1840 I make a few phone calls while waiting on the bus. Troops begin boarding the bus, and they seem exhausted. They are soaked, and trying to get warm. They've been through a lot, but there are no complaints. These dedicated troopers deserve a lot of credit.

1900 The bus pulls away. There's a sense of relief on the bus. The day is not over, however. They still have to head to the stables and put away their equipment, and take care of the horses for the night. Then, it's shower time, before reporting to a dinner in their honor at Ft. Meyer. A long day is simply getting longer.

They are hoping that the trip back to the stables will not be as long as the last time they were here, in 1989. Legend has it that they circled the Washington Monument five times before finally getting on the correct route. This city was certainly not designed for easy commuting... but things work out better this time.

2000 We finally make it back to the stables, and the troops still have more work to do. I later find out that they did not make it back to the hotel until about 10 p.m. Their dinner at Ft. Meyer went late, but at least they were recognized for their selfless contribution to a great American event. I just hope my photos offer at least an appropriate reflection of everything they've gone through, and the significance of their involvement in the 54th Presidential Inaugural.

PILOT TRAINING OPPORTUNITY

LOCATION: 118th Fighter Squadron, Bradley ANG Base, East Granby CT 06026

POSITION: A-10 pilot, Authorized Grade: Major

Position is for Fiscal Year 2003 (1 Oct 02-30 Sep 03)

TRAINING:

Basic Attribute Test – 1 Day
Academy of Military Science (Commissioning), 6 Weeks
Enhanced Flight Screening, 3 Days
Undergraduate Pilot Training – 54 Weeks

Centrifuge – 1 Day
Fighter Fundamentals – 6 Weeks
A-10 Training – 11 Weeks
Basic Survival Training – 3 Weeks
Water Survival – 1 Day
Home Station Seasoning – 254 Days
Additional Special Training – 254 Days (optional, requires 118 FS CC approval)

REQUIREMENTS:

Bachelors Degree conferred no later than 15 Jun 2001

Applicants must be under age 30 as of 30 Sep 2003

Private Pilots License highly desirable

APPLICABLE FORMS:

- 1.) Resume
- 2.) Copy of Air Force Officer Qualification Test results*
- 3.) Copy of Certified College Transcripts (raised seal)
- 4.) Flying Class II Physical for selected candidates only

*Applicants requiring to take the AFOQT will be scheduled as required 860-292-2591, AFOQT scores must be submitted prior to 30 Jun 01.

A selection panel will interview each candidate to make the final selection and recommendation through command channels.

CLOSEOUT DATE:

All applications must be submitted to:

Major Tom Powers
118 th Fighter Squadron
100 Nicholson Road, Bradley ANGB, East Granby CT 06026-9309

Deadline 4p.m. 30 Jun 01

Family Readiness- Not Just for Deployments

By SGT. MAJ. BARBARA MONTIGNY,
CTARNG FAMILY PROGRAM

Everyone needs to be concerned with Family Readiness. There are many reasons why someone might be separated from their family. Deployments are not the only reason that families are separated. Perhaps a parent or other relative living out of state will need someone to stay with them after or during a serious illness or operation. Schools and training programs for both military and civilian work may require an extended period away from home.

Whether the period is short or long, there's a lot to do to make sure all goes smoothly. Planning ahead can save family members at home from feeling they have to handle it all alone, and the "deployed person" from worrying about things left undone. The tips in this article are applicable to all separations. We will use the word deployment even though it may actually be a non-military spouse being "deployed" out of state to help a relative!

Planning, preparation, information, understanding, commitment and dedication to the family can ease the stress during these times. The Family Program Office personnel understand the concerns and worries that surface and we can help you prepare and cope with the challenges that are sometimes a part of life.

FINANCES: Managing the family budget while your spouse is away can be challenging, but it's manageable. Prior to deployment, sit down with your spouse and calculate your monthly expenses.

Consider opening separate checking accounts to ease confusion over who is writing checks and when they are written. Set credit card limits for you and your spouse. Limits will help you both from adding credit card debt, if you have any. Also decide who will be using which cards during your deployment. Make sure that your checking and savings accounts are in the same bank so funds can be transferred easily.

Request a set of financial management CD's from the Family Program Office. It has lots of "good stuff" to know and think about your money. Free military financial specialists are available to consult with deploying soldier's families.

VEHICLES: Car problems can be very aggravating if you don't know whom to contact to repair them. Make certain you have the name of a trusted mechanic or automotive garage where you have taken your car for service. Repair costs can mount rapidly if you simply select a repair shop from the phone book. Be sure to keep a record (the refrigerator is a good place) of the correct type of battery, etc., for the car. Keep track of when automotive registration, insurance, emissions inspections or changes

T.G.I.F. The Guard Is Family



are due.

Family Support Groups can also help with referrals and may even have someone whom has volunteered to help with free simple repairs and advice.

HOME/APARTMENT MAINTENANCE: Know what to do or who to call if something in your home breaks down. Before the deployment, give your home a security check inside and outside. This should include testing (or installing) smoke alarms and checking door and window locks, outdoor lights or motion detectors. Review your homeowner or renter's insurance policies. As with vehicles, your Family Support Group may be able to make suggestions about who to talk with regarding home breakdown problems.

EMERGENCY PLANS: Knowing that you're prepared for a possible emergency during the deployment will bring about peace of mind. The Family Program Office or the Family Assistance Center can help you get information on how to handle emergencies.

LEGAL: Have wills drawn up for you and your spouse. Your spouse will also need a power of attorney. Before deployment, make sure that you both know the location of important documents, i.e., wills, marriage and birth certificates and insurance policies.

FAMILY PROGRAM OFFICE : Books, pamphlets, checklists and videos are available to help prepare for separations. They also include additional insight into the emotional cycles of deployment and can help ease the stress associated with a deployment. Separations can be a unique challenge and adventure. It can also give you a chance to grow. Visit the Connecticut National Guard web pages <http://ct.ngb.army.mil> and the Family Program Office to review more ideas and information.

The Family Program Office is seeking interested members of the Connecticut Army National Guard to serve in an ADSW status as Family Assistance Center (FAC) Coordinators throughout the SFOR 10 rotation of the 143d Forward Support Battalion and B Company, 1st Battalion, 102d Infantry. FAC Coordinators will be assigned to a specific deploying unit and are responsible for providing pre-deployment information and instruction to the soldiers and their families, as well as coordinating all family support activities and events throughout the deployment. FAC Coordinators will remain employed in this capacity for approximately 45 days following the return of the unit to assist soldiers and their families with the transition and access to new benefits and entitlements as a result of their service in Bosnia.

Detailed position descriptions and further information are available by contacting the Family Program Office and speaking with Mrs. Kimberly Hoffman or SGM Barbara Montigny at 1-800-858-2677 or (860) 524-4801.

Please Join us for...

BREAKFAST WITH THE EASTER BUNNY

Sponsored by the Connecticut National Guard Family Program

Saturday, April 14th, 2001

Building 28, Camp Rowland, Niantic, CT

**0900 to 1030 – Free Pancake Breakfast and Photos with the Easter Bunny
1030 – Easter Parade to "the Point" for Egg Hunts**

Reservations are necessary as capacity is limited!

Please provide the following information with your reservation: Name of sponsor, phone number, how many adults, how many children and their ages.

Email: kim.hoffman@ct.ngb.army.mil Or: sgmbtm@aol.com

Or: Leave a voice message at 1-800-858-2677 with the

above details

Or mail your reservation information to:

**Soldier-Airman Support Center, Family Program Office,
251 Maxim Rd., Hartford, CT 06114**

This event is open to the entire Guard community!

**All Army and Air Guard members, retirees, civilian technicians
of the CTNG, state employees of the Military Department and
Office of Emergency Management are most welcome!**

Air Guard Sponsors Third Annual Easter EGGstravaganza



Family members of current and past Connecticut Air National Guard airmen are invited to attend the Third Annual Easter EGGstravaganza at noon on Saturday, April 14 at the Base Dining Hall, 103rd Fighter Wing. The event will feature cookout-style refreshments, crafts, games and more. Respond by April 6 with last name and number of children attending, including ages of the children. Call (860) 292-2574 or 1-800-992-6056, menu item 7 and leave a message. Or email to marsha.blessing@ctbrad.ang.af.mil

